



LUKE PEARSON

# HILDA AND THE TROLL

FLYING EYE BOOKS



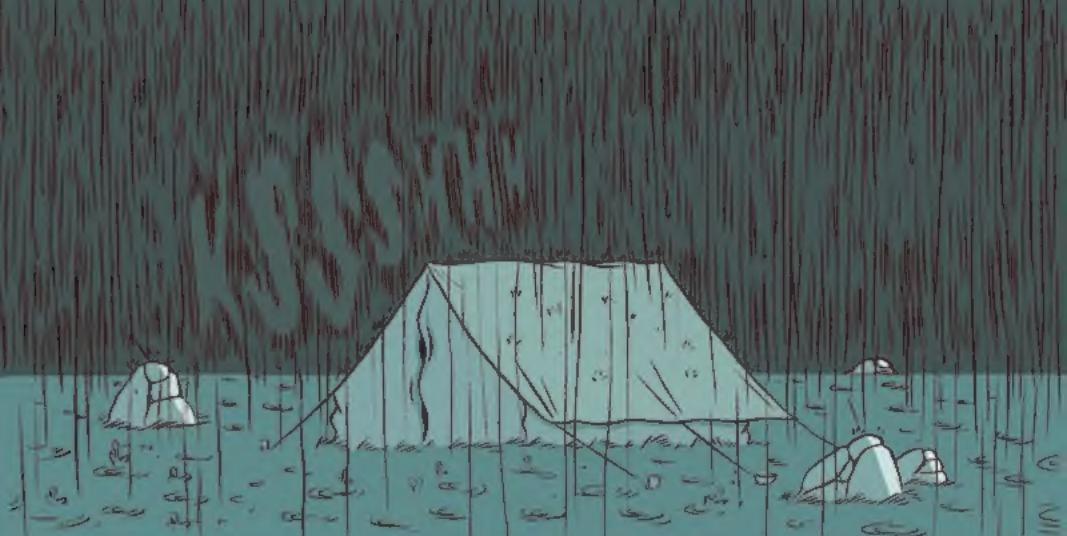
THANKS TO PHILIPPA, MY FAMILY, MARTHA, JULES AND EVERYBODY AT NOBROW.



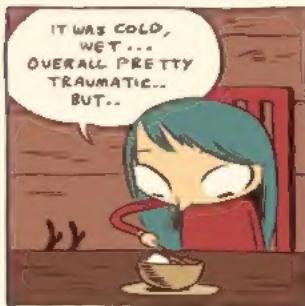












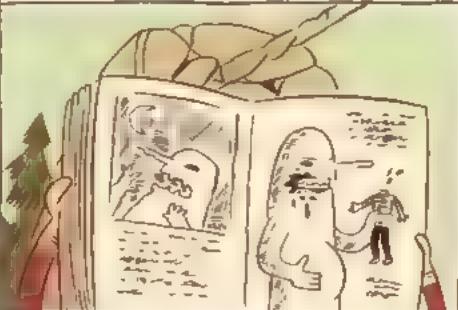




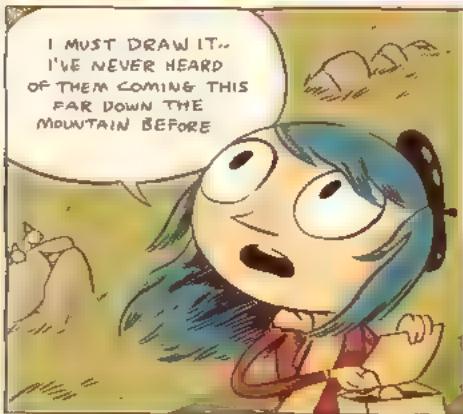


BY DAY, IT'S NOTHING BUT A PECULIAR LOOKING ROCK. BUT BY DARKNESS...

...IT TAKES THE FORM OF A FIERCE AND POWERFUL TROLL!



I MUST DRAW IT.. I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THEM COMING THIS FAR DOWN THE MOUNTAIN BEFORE



LUCKILY I WAS PREPARED FOR THIS PRECISE EVENTUALITY.  
I NEED YOU TO TAKE THIS BELL TW G-

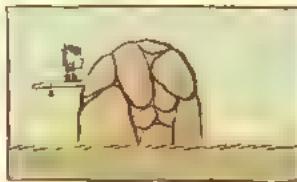
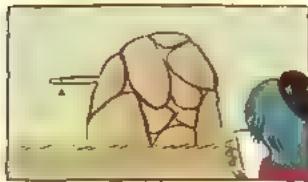
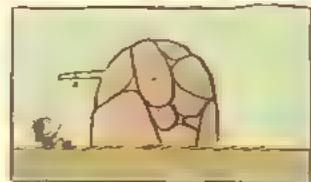
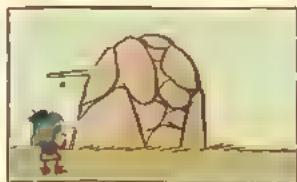
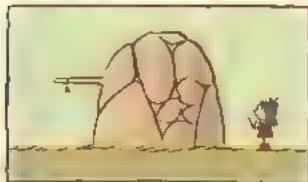


AND TIE IT AROUND HIS NOSE. THAT WAY, IF HE BUDGES, WE'LL HEAR IT.  
NOT THAT HE WILL...



..YOU KNOW, JUST IN CASE A CLOUD GOES OVER OR SOMETHING..





Jingle  
Jingle

Ingle  
Ingle



OH NO! THE  
SUN'S SETTING!  
AND THE TROLL...



HE COULD  
BE ANYWHERE!



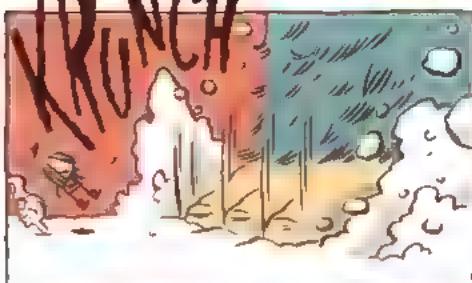
WE HAVE  
TO RUN, TWIG...

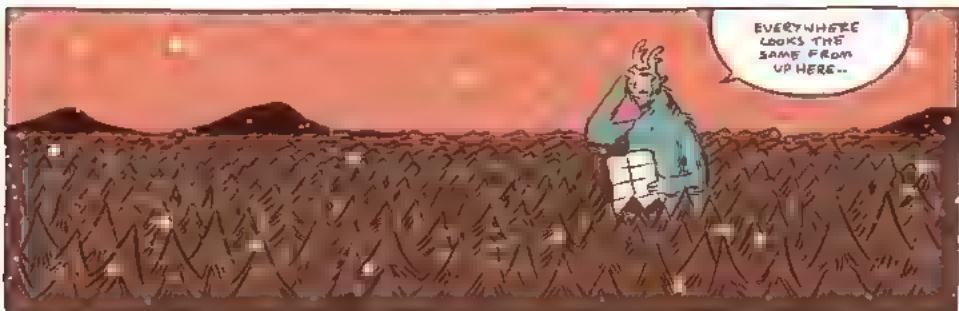
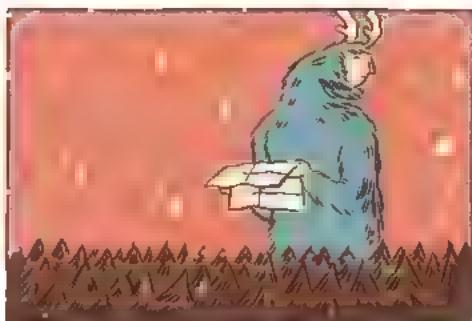






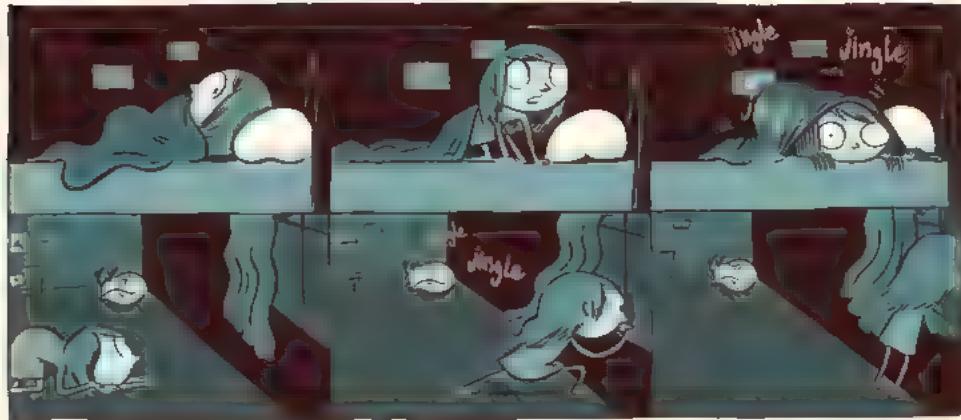
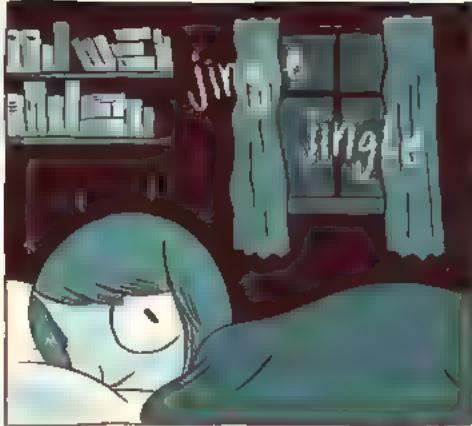
WELL, I'M PRETTY SURE THAT TROLL ISN'T FINDING US. BUT WE ARE IN A BIG SCARY FOREST...













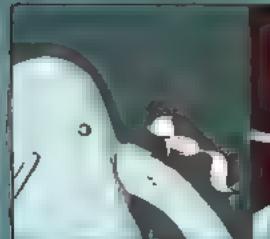


ONE SHOULD  
ALWAYS READ THE  
WHOLE BOOK  
THEY'RE NO  
FOR DIPPIN'

SHUSH  
YOU!

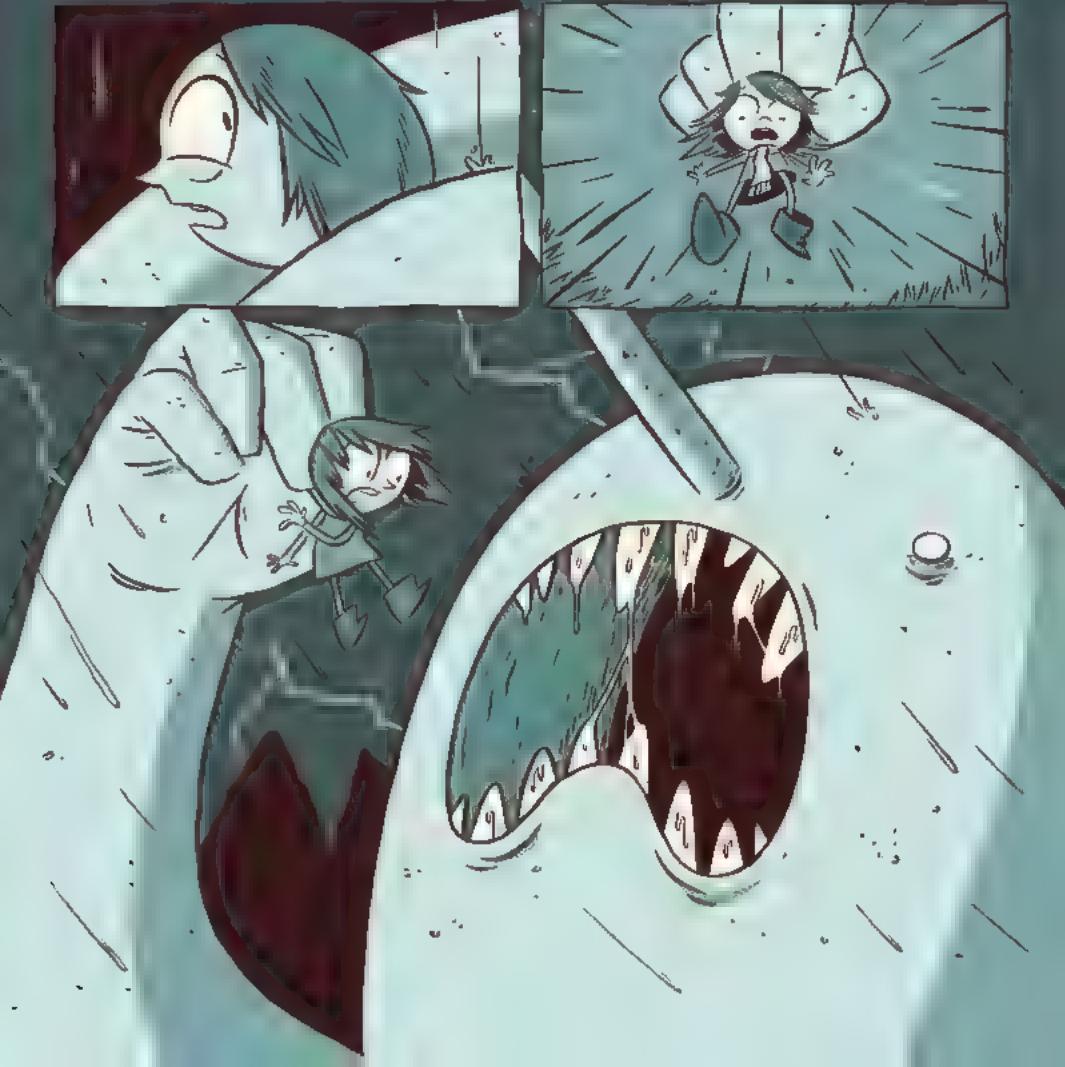
WINTER  
OR

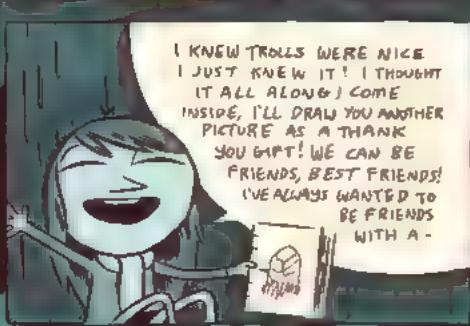
I... I'M SO SORRY  
UM... SIR...  
TWIG?



THERE. SORRY  
ABOUT THAT AGAIN.  
I'LL BE OFF NOW.  
YOU PROBABLY  
SHOULD BE.

..TOO.



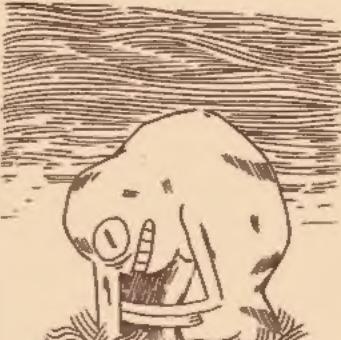






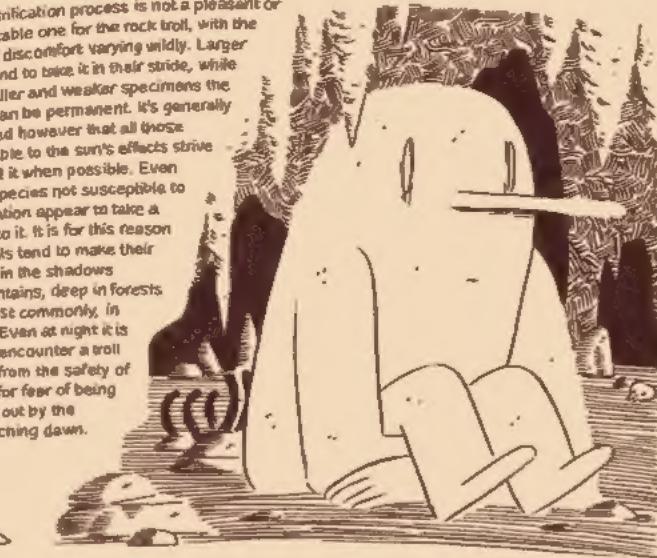
### Solar Petrification

and although they will often mimic the regular stones that litter their territory, they are far from undetectable. They are frequently distinguishable by the hints of a face or the characteristically long nose, although the more devious trolls will actively attempt to conceal this feature.

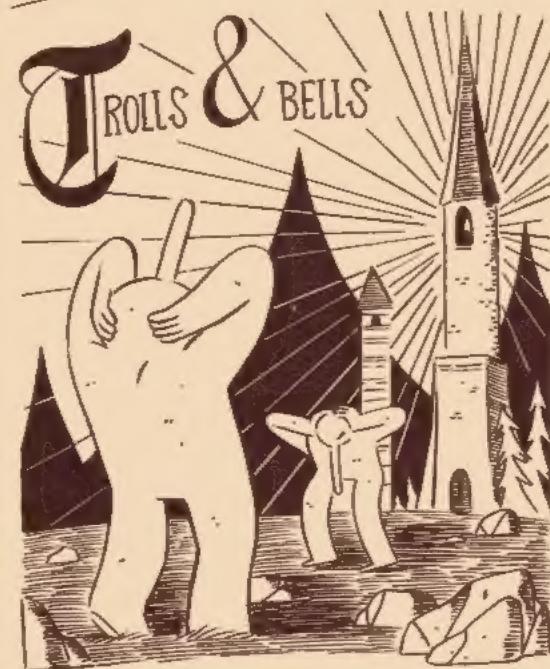


Left, photograph of a petrified troll with concealed nose (photographer's name unknown). Above, an artist's impression of the unpetrified specimen.

The petrification process is not a pleasant or comfortable one for the rock troll, with the level of discomfort varying wildly. Larger trolls tend to take it in their stride, while for smaller and weaker specimens the effect can be permanent. It's generally accepted however that all those vulnerable to the sun's effects strive to avoid it when possible. Even those species not susceptible to petrification appear to take a dislike to it. It is for this reason that trolls tend to make their homes in the shadows of mountains, deep in forests and most commonly, in caves. Even at night it is rare to encounter a troll too far from the safety of its lair for fear of being caught out by the approaching dawn.



## TROLLS & BELLS



It has long been known that trolls have a seemingly irrational fear of the sound of ringing bells. Unlike sunlight, the sound appears to have no physiological effects on the creatures, except for those resulting directly from the psychological distress the ringing causes them.

Historically, this has been exploited to great effect by humans who have found themselves in conflict with trolls, both as a method of personal self-defence and on a larger scale. Settlers arriving in the unspoiled wildernesses around the Nornfjords would first erect temporary wooden bell towers, to secure the area in preparation for building. Cities such as Trolberg maintain a large number of permanent bell towers with a regular ringing schedule to keep the native trolls a safe distance from their walls.



In the past, travellers would hang small bells in the mouths of caves that were believed to be home to trolls, both as a warning to fellow travellers looking for shelter and to potentially prevent the trolls from leaving their lair.

Similarly, when setting up a camp, travellers would search the immediate area for suspicious looking rocks and hang a bell from any nose-like protrusions they came across. If any of the stones began to stir when night fell, the camp would be alerted. However, in recent

# WUZZLE SCANS

